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SUBJECT: OCTOBER 23 MFA PRESS BRIEFING: SIX-PARTY TALKS, DALAI LAMA, EU-CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS DIALOGUE, VISITS

¶1. Key points at the October 23 MFA Press Briefing:

-- China's new leadership committed to peaceful development and DPRK denuclearization process

-- Regarding the Dalai Lama, the United States and China will hold "effective communication"

-- EU-China dialogue on human rights "helpful"

-- Visits: UN Envoy Gambari, Sonia Gandhi, King Abdullah II of Jordan, French FM Bernard Kouchner

Six-Party Talks

¶2. At the October 23 regular MFA press briefing, MFA Spokesman Liu Jianchao confirmed that all six parties are continuing to exchange views on the DPRK denuclearization process. China will send a delegation to Panmunjom for the October 29 working group meeting on energy and economic assistance, Liu added.

¶3. A reporter asked whether the newly selected members of the Politburo Standing Committee will carry on a similar policy toward the Korean Peninsula. China will continue to promote "peaceful development" and play an important role in the DPRK denuclearization process, Liu stated.

Dalai Lama and U.S.-China Relations

¶4. A reporter asked whether the U.S. position on the Dalai Lama will affect U.S.-China relations. Liu replied that the United States and China will continue to hold "effective communication" regarding this issue. Issues related to the Dalai Lama should not be used to interfere with Chinese affairs, he added.

EU-China Dialogue on Human Rights

¶5. "The EU side thinks positively about Chinese achievements on human rights," Liu stated. Dialogue and consultation are helpful; therefore, China will continue to promote its human rights dialogue with the EU, he added. The next round of talks will take place at the end of November.

China Aware of 12 Turkish Soldiers Killed

¶6. China took note of the recent killings of 12 Turkish soldiers and hopes for peace and stability in the region through dialogue and consultation.

China Hacking German websites

¶7. When asked about recent reports that China is hacking websites run by the German government and private companies, Liu said this accusation is groundless and requires no further clarification.

Delay of ROK Assistance to the DPRK

¶8. A reporter asked whether China is delaying the rail delivery of South Korean food aid to North Korea. China took note of these reports and can confirm that railway transport is running normal, Liu replied.

Visits

¶9. UN Envoy to Burma Ibrahim Gambari will visit China October 24-25 to exchange views with China. Gambari will meet with State Councilors Tang Jiaxuan and Wang Yi and AFM He Yafei. The Foreign Ministers of China, Russia and India will meet October 24 in Harbin, China to strengthen trilateral cooperation. King Abdullah II of Jordan will pay a state visit to China October 29-November 1. French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner will visit China October 31-November 1. Randt